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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gholam-Reza Zadno-Azizi, *et al.*  
Serial No.: 10/071,620  
Filed: February 8, 2002  
For: *BODY FLUID FLOW CONTROL  
DEVICE*  
Art Unit: 3738  
Examiner: Unassigned

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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
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Sir:

In advance of the first examination in this case, Applicants request amendment of the subject application, as follows (a marked up copy of the amended specification is attached to this Amendment):

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

**Please replace the paragraph on page 2, lines 2-6, with the following:**

*B.* Native valves are also found in cardiovascular systems. In veins, native venous valves promote one-way flow toward the heart from the periphery. Diseases exist such as venous thrombosis and thrombophlebitis which can render native venous valves incompetent, resulting in edema. Replacement of these native valves with artificial ones could provide substantial health benefits.

**Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 21, through page 10, line 1, with the following:**